



PATENT
Docket No. 235.00440101

#8/a
Dmt
10-9-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Travis et al.) Group Art Unit: 1652
Serial No.: 10/008,355) Examiner: S. Swope
Filed: November 8, 2001)
For: DIPEPTIDYLPEPTIDASES AND METHODS OF USE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-9 and 19-23, and add claims 24-38. The new claims are provided below in clean form.

24. (New) An isolated nucleic acid that encodes a dipeptidylpeptidase having amidolytic activity for cleavage of a peptide bond between the second and third amino acids from the N-terminal end of a target polypeptide, wherein the target polypeptide has an aliphatic or an aromatic residue as a substituent on the α -carbon atom of the second amino acid from the N-terminal end of the polypeptide, and wherein the dipeptidylpeptidase comprises a sequence TGGNSGSPV (SEQ ID NO:26).
25. (New) The isolated nucleic acid of claim 24 wherein the sequence of the dipeptidylpeptidase comprises TGGNSGSPVF (SEQ ID NO:25).